

From: [Ant Blasi](#)
To: [Burke, Ruth A](#); [Hinkel, Bill](#); [Tierney, Katherine](#); [Bensinger, Peggy](#); [Miller, Susanne](#); [King, Molly](#); [Parmelee, Susan](#); [Tarbuck, Kathy](#); [Kirstie Pecci](#); jbrowne@verrill-law.com; kvforestry@roadrunner.com
Subject: The DEP must make stronger steps to protect our communities and environment
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I support the Conservation Law Foundation's Norridgewock Expansion Appeal. A new landfill never incentivizes environmentally responsible waste management practices like reduction, reuse, recycling, or composting. The more capacity available for landfilling, the more likely it is that waste will be buried. The DEP should be leading Maine in Zero Waste systems development. The Crossroads Landfill is the only landfill in Maine licensed to accept "special waste," and one of very few in the northeast. Approving 48.6 acres of new landfill capacity for these unwanted wastes will allow waste producers in surrounding states to avoid taking necessary action to find better waste to manage these high-risk materials. While all landfills are dangerous and will ultimately fail to contain harmful leachate, a two-liner system would be much more protective. The DEP should require Waste Management to pretreat all its leachate to target leachate specific contaminants like PFAS prior to processing at the off-site-Waste Water Treatment Plants.

Ant Blasi